

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

December 10, 2023

707 987-3676



Pastoral Staff

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza, Pastor
Sandy Hood, Office Manager

Roger Mattu - RCIA Director
Debbie Heidary-Newsletter/Website

Schedule of Services:

Reconciliation

Friday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. English
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Spanish
or by Appointment

Baptisms

Preparation for parents required:
See Pastor after Mass

Marriages

By appointment at least six months
in advance

Anointing of the Sick

For those who are elderly, seriously
ill, or scheduled for surgery, please
call the parish office.

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

P.O. Box 1350
Middletown, CA 95461
Email: stjoseph11@att.net
Website: stjoseph-middletown.com
Fax: 707 987-2792
Emergency #: 707 513-3991



MASS SCHEDULE

Our Lady of the Lake Mission – 12836 Hwy 175, Loch Lomond
Saturday Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses

St. Joseph Church – Middletown, 9:30 a.m. (English)
St. Joseph Church - 4:00 p.m. (Spanish)

St. Joseph Church Weekday Schedule

Mass Tuesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. (English)
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 6:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish)
7:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday only

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Excerpt from A Spiritual Reflection by Pope Francis, Angelus Message, December 6, 2020

CONVERSION: DETACHMENT FROM WORLDLINESS AND THE SEARCH FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

This Sunday's Gospel passage (Mk 1:1-8) introduces the person and work of John the Baptist. He reveals to his contemporaries an itinerary of faith similar to the one that Advent proposes to us, who are preparing ourselves to receive the Lord at Christmas. This itinerary of faith is an itinerary of conversion. What does the word "conversion" mean? In the Bible it means, first and foremost, to change direction and orientation; and thus also to change one's way of thinking. In the moral and spiritual life, to convert means to turn oneself from evil to good, from sin to love of God. And this is what the Baptist was teaching, who in the desert of Judea was "preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (v. 4). Receiving baptism was an outward and visible sign of the conversion of those who had listened to his preaching and decided to repent. That baptism occurred with immersion in the Jordan, in water, but it proved useless; it was only a sign, and it was useless if there was no willingness to repent and change one's life.

Conversion involves suffering for sins committed, the desire to be free from them, the intention to exclude them from one's own life forever. To exclude sin, it is also necessary to reject everything that is connected to it; the things that are connected to sin. And thus, we have to reject: a worldly mentality, excessive esteem for comforts, excessive esteem for pleasure, for well-being, for wealth. The example of this detachment comes to us once again from today's Gospel in the person of John the Baptist: an austere man who renounces excess and seeks the essential. This is the first aspect of conversion: *detachment from sin and worldliness*: commencing a journey of detachment from these things.

What can we do in these cases, when one would like to go but feels he or she cannot do it? First of all, remind ourselves that conversion *is a grace*: no one can convert by his or own strength. It is a grace that the Lord gives you, and thus we need to forcefully ask God for it. To ask God to convert us, that we can truly convert, to the degree in which we open ourselves up to the beauty, the goodness, the tenderness of God. Think about God's tenderness. God is not a bad father, an unkind father, no. He is tender. He loves us so much, like the Good Shepherd, who searches for the last member of his flock. It is love, and this is conversion: a grace of God. Begin to walk, because it is he who moves you to walk, and you will see how he will arrive. Pray, walk, and you will always take a step forward.

SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Extracto de Una Reflexión Espiritual del Papa Francisco, Mensaje del Ángelus, 6 de Diciembre de 2020

CONVERSIÓN: DESPRENDIMIENTO DE LA MUNDANIDAD Y LA BÚSQUEDA DEL REINO DE DIOS

El pasaje del Evangelio de este domingo (Mk 1:1-8) presenta la persona y la obra de Juan el Bautista. Revela a sus contemporáneos un itinerario de fe similar al que nos propone el Adviento, que se están preparando para recibir al Señor en Navidad. Este itinerario de fe es un itinerario de conversión. ¿Qué significa la palabra "conversión"? En la Biblia significa, ante todo, cambiar de dirección y orientación; y, por lo tanto, también cambiar la forma de pensar. En la vida moral y espiritual, convertir significa pasar del mal al bien, del pecado al amor a Dios. Y esto es lo que estaba enseñando el Bautista, que en el desierto de Judea estaba "predicando un bautismo de arrepentimiento para el perdón de los pecados" (v. 4). Recibir el bautismo era un signo externo y visible de la conversión de aquellos que habían escuchado su predicación y decidieron arrepentirse. Ese bautismo ocurrió con la inmersión en el Jordán, en el agua, pero resultó inútil; era solo una señal, y era inútil si no había voluntad de arrepentirse y cambiar la vida de uno. La conversión implica el sufrimiento por los pecados cometidos, el deseo de estar libre de ellos, la intención de excluirlos de la propia vida para siempre. Para excluir el pecado, también es necesario rechazar todo lo que está conectado con él; las cosas que están conectadas con el pecado. Y por lo tanto, tenemos que rechazar: una mentalidad mundana, una estima excesiva por las comodidades, una estima excesiva por el placer, por el bienestar, por la riqueza. El ejemplo de este desapego nos viene una vez más del Evangelio de hoy en la persona de Juan el Bautista: un hombre austero que renuncia al exceso y busca lo esencial. Este es el primer aspecto de la conversión: el desapego del pecado y la mundanidad: comenzar un viaje de desapego de estas cosas. ¿Qué podemos hacer en estos casos, cuando a uno le gustaría ir pero siente que no puede hacerlo? En primer lugar, recuérdate que la conversión es una gracia: nadie puede convertirse por su propia fuerza. Es una gracia que el Señor te da, y por lo tanto tenemos que pedirle a la fuerza a Dios. Pedirle a Dios que nos convierta, para que podamos convertirnos de verdad, hasta el grado en que nos abrimos a la belleza, la bondad y la ternura de Dios. Piensa en la ternura de Dios. Dios no es un padre malo, o un padre poco amable, no. El es tierno y nos quiere tanto, como el Buen Pastor, que busca al último miembro de su rebaño. Es amor, y esto es conversión: una gracia de Dios. Empieza a caminar, porque es él quien te mueve a caminar, y verás cómo llegará. Reza, camina y siempre darás un paso adelante.



Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who care for them. . . . Charlie Bigelow, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni Susan Conley, Cheryl Elliehausen, Hector Guerra, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Andre Kelley, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Coleen McCluskey, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Karen Ness, Don Nielsen, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Tyrone Rivera, Melody Royvel, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Leslie Thomas, Toni Vecellio, and special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.




COLLECTIONS - December 2nd & 3rd

First Collection \$1453 Second Collection \$3182

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *The next coffee social at St. Joseph will be next Sunday, December 17 after the 9:30 mass.*
- *Boxes of collection envelopes are located in the entrance to the church. Please pickup your envelopes for 2024. If you do not find your envelopes, please contact Sandy asap.*
- *The Lady of the Lake Guild has an Advent Magnificat Companion available for all parishioners. They can be picked up before the 4:00 pm mass at Our Lady of the Lake or contact Suzanna Macedo 707 272-2518*
- *Pick up a calendar if you didn't get one last weekend.*
- *Are you new to our parish, but not registered? Are you registered in our parish but not using collection envelopes? Now is the time to contact the office if want weekly collection envelopes. or change your telephone number and/or email address or any other personal information. Contact Sandy now! 707 513-3991 or email stjoseph11@att.net.*
- *Latest figures from the diocese shows an AMA rebate of \$1254 coming to St. Joseph. Thank you!*
- *The 9:30 am Advent Recollection Talk on Wednesday, December 13 has been cancelled due to small numbers attending.*

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin.
stjoseph-middletown.com "I am the vine; you are the branches."

Mass Intentions 

Saturday, December 9, 4:00 p.m.

Ben Coyne+ By: Sarah Dunn

Sunday, December 10, 9:30 a.m.

Fr. Andrew Metcalf+ By: St. Joseph Parish

Wednesday, December 13, 9:30 a.m.

Fr. Andrew Metcalf+ By: St. Joseph Parish

Friday, December 15, 9:30 a.m.

Fr. Andrew Metcalf+ By: St. Joseph Parish

Mass intentions available for all masses, envelopes in the back of both churches. complete the information and put in the collection basket or bring to the church.



JOIN US TODAY AFTER MASS

First, blessing of the statues and grotto.

Second, Christmas Party - Potluck Brunch

Third, the traditional celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe will begin at 3:15 p.m. with a procession, mass at 4:00 p.m. followed by free delicious food and a lot of fun.

*We are sad to announce the passing of **Dennis McDonough** on Sunday, November 14, his 80th birthday. A memorial mass is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday morning, December 16, at St. Joseph. May he rest in peace!*

*In addition, we sadly announce the passing of **Fr. Andrew Metcalf**, a former pastor of St. Joseph. A funeral will be held for Fr. Metcalf on December 13 at 11:00 a.m. at the St. Helena Catholic Church, 1340 Tainter St., St. Helena.*

Sign-up sheets available in the back of St. Joseph for Eucharistic Adoration scheduled every first Friday of the month. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Middletown Mail & More
and Vehicle Registration Services

21373 STATE HWY 175 UNIT D
MIDDLETOWN, CA 95461
M-F 9 am- 6 pm Sat 10 am- 2 pm
P: 707-809-7536

- UPS • FedEx • USPS • Packing Supplies • Copies
- Live Scan • Notary Public • Greeting Cards
- Document Scanning • Computer Rental • Faxing
- Passport Photos • Confidential Shredding
- Office & School Supplies • Printing Services-
Photos, Banners, Blue Prints, Business Cards, Flyers
- Vehicle Registration Services- Renewals &
Transfers: Vehicles, Boats, Trailers, & More!

www.middletownmailandmore.com

Middletown
FLORIST & GIFTS

21057 Calistoga Rd.
Middletown, Ca 95461
Mtownflorist.com

707-987-9500
Middletownflorist@gmail.com

707-987-9500

ARMED FORCE PEST CONTROL INC.

"The Bug Stops Here!"

Bonded, Insured, Licensed
Lic. # PR4227
Locally Owned & Operated Since 2002

PO Box 537
Middletown, CA 95461
707-987-9828
Fax: 707-987-9829
service@armedforcepest.com
www.armedforcepest.com

Gondola Enterprises
home repair
garden maintenance
landscaping

Richard J. Gondola

fax/phone (707) 526-2900
cell (707) 529-3428

RGW Groundskeeping, LLC
Vegetation Control

Jose Ramirez
19565 Stinson Rd
Hidden Valley Lake, CA
95467

530-340-3974
707-987-9977
jose1tormz@gmail.com

B&G Tires Middletown
Tires, Balances, Alignments

John Higgins
Manager

21218 Calistoga St / PO Box 961
Middletown, CA 95461
office 707-987-2291
hours 8:00-5:00 Monday thru Friday

COOPERTIRES

Sean Millerick
OWNER
20329 Powder Horn Road
Hidden Valley Lake CA. 95467
707.495.2954
millerickplumbing@outlook.com

La Parrilla
mexican food

707-987-4663 (GOOD)
21389 Stewart Street Middletown
Monday-Friday
12-8pm
Closed Weekends

STEPHEN HEBERT
Painting

OWNER
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
CA #697100

707.987.2674
707.489.7953 mbl

Where Every Bite Is A Delight!

BEULAH'S KITCHEN
Open 7 Days a Week 6am - 2pm
21147 Calistoga St.
Middletown, CA 95461 (707) 987-0473

Perry's
MIDDLETOWN

707.987.2416
perrys.middletown@gmail.com
perrys_deli_middletown
PerrysDeli

Derick Fiske
owner

Rosales
Meat Market & Mexican Restaurant

Open 7 Days a Week
Sun - Thu 8am - 8pm
Fri - Sat 8am - 9pm

Groceries, Meats, Mexican Products,
Mexican Food, (Eat in or take out).
Service of Copies, Fax, Wire Money.

Envios de Dinero a tu Pais, Copias y Fax.
Ph/Fax: (707) 987-9416
21178 Calistoga St, Middletown CA, 95461

Morris Painting
707-479-3374

Jeff Morris
Owner
Lic. # 1016136
morrisandsonpainting@gmail.com

HARDESTY'S
EST. 1943
MARKETS & HARDWARE

707-987-2325
21088 Calistoga Road, Middletown
16295 Highway 175, Cobb
18949 Hartman Rd, Hidden Valley Lake

LAKE AUTO
REGISTRATION SERVICE

14913-B LAKESHORE DR
CLEARLAKE, CA 95422

707-320-1253
LAKEAUTODMV@GMAIL.COM

VEHICLE REGISTRATION
TITLE TRANSFERS
CAR INSURANCE

Please support our
advertisers, by
patronizing their
businesses.